

Docket No.: 50212-174

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Kaoru OKUNO, et al. : Confirmation Number: 1983
Serial No.: 09/734,205 : Group Art Unit: 2874
Filed: December 12, 2000 : Examiner: Hoffman, John M
For: OPTICAL FIBER MAKING METHOD AND OPTICAL FIBER MAKING APPARATUS

LETTER

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

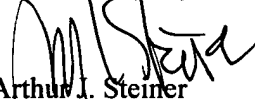
Upon receipt of the Office Action dated February 9, 2004, it was noted that rejections were imposed under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Roba (U.S. Patent No. 6,371,394). However, no PTO form 892 was attached nor indicated as an attachment and no such reference to Roba was supplied with the Office Action.

These facts were communicated to Examiner Hoffman on February 23, 2004.

Accordingly, it is requested that the Examiner furnish Applicants with copies of above-identified references and PTO form 892. It is further requested that the Examiner restart the previously set period for response to run from the date the documents are mailed. See MPEP 710.06.

Respectfully submitted,

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